

SOP No: SAMP PROC-6		Page 1 of 8
Title: Collection, Packaging and Shipping of Poultry Products		
Revision: New	Replaces: N/A	Effective: 04/01/00

**1. Purpose:**

To provide standard procedures for the collection, packaging and shipping of poultry products for the USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Pesticide Data Program (PDP).

**2. Scope:**

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) shall be followed by all Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) personnel acting as PDP sample collectors during the entire sample collection process as required by PDP.

**3. Outline of Procedures:**

- 6.1 Collection of Poultry Samples
- 6.2 Unified Sampling Form (USF)
- 6.3 Packaging of Poultry Samples
- 6.4 Shipping of Poultry Samples

**4. References:**

- AMS/FSIS Meeting, Washington, DC, January 10, 2000
- Attachment A (Contact List of Persons Participating in Poultry Program)
- Attachment B (Poultry Sample Collection Dates)
- Memorandum, Meat, Poultry, and Egg Testing Program, William Franks, December 16, 1999
- USDA, AMS, PDP Federal-State Meeting, October 26-28, 1999
- USDA, FSIS Directive 10,210.1 Unified Sampling Form, 10/15/97

**5. Summary:**

The poultry survey was developed in consultation with USDA's FSIS and AMS. The target commodity to be sampled will be young chickens. FSIS inspectors will act as PDP samplers to collect, package and ship poultry products--liver, thigh muscle and adipose tissue to the USDA, AMS, laboratory in Gastonia, North Carolina, for analysis.

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The purpose of these procedures is to merely provide guidelines to FSIS inspectors carrying out PDP work during the sampling process. Samples will be collected from Federally inspected poultry slaughter plants and shipped to the USDA, AMS, laboratory for analysis. PDP goal is to collect 14 samples per week or approximately 670 samples annually. No site shall be sampled more than once on a single day. Each sample will be shipped frozen and will comprise of approximately one pound each of adipose (fat) and muscle tissue and liver.

## **6. Specific Procedures:**

This SOP represents minimum PDP requirements for the collection, packaging, and shipping of poultry samples. This SOP will be used as the measure of compliance in the event of a USDA/AMS sampling review.

### **6.1 Collection of Poultry Products**

- a. Samples will be collected only at federally inspected poultry slaughter plants.
- b. Each plant will be assigned a specific number of samples to be collected.
- c. Samples shall not be collected more than one time a day from any slaughter facility.
- d. The sample collection period will begin April 3, 2000. Sampling dates are provided under Attachment B.
- e. Samples shall not be collected the week of July 4, 2000, November 22, 2000, December 25, 2000, and January 1, 2001.
- f. All supplies used to collect and break the carcasses must be free of any contaminants which may affect the analytical results.
- g. FSIS inspectors will randomly collect 14 poultry samples or 84 chicken carcasses (1 sample=6 chicken carcasses) per week.
- h. The six birds shall be collected from the same flock.
- i. FSIS inspectors shall remove the liver, adipose tissue and thigh muscle from the chicken.

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- j. FSIS inspectors will de-bone the thigh and discard the bone. Only the meat portion of the thigh will be packed and shipped with the liver and adipose tissue and sent to the laboratory for analysis.
- k. Each sample (liver, adipose tissue and muscle) will be placed into a separate plastic bag. For example, one sample or six chicken livers would be placed and sealed in a plastic bag.
- l. Each sample shall be placed in the plant's freezer overnight.

## **6.2. Unified Sampling Form**

- a. FSIS inspectors shall complete all applicable information on FSIS Form 10,210-3 and place it in a separate plastic bag so that the form is not damaged during shipping.
- b. If a scheduled sample can not be collected, provide a brief explanation under section 28, "Remarks".
- c. One FSIS Form 10,210-3 must be placed in the shipping container along with the samples.

## **6.3 Packing Poultry Products**

- a. Each sample must be packed by the FSIS inspector who collected the sample.
- b. Samples may be prepared for shipment at the collection site or transported to a local State office or shipping facility.
- c. If the collector packages and ships poultry samples from a location other than the collection site, the collector must take necessary precautions to package the poultry products in an insulated container to minimize contamination.
- d. All supplies used for packaging samples must be free of any contaminants which may affect the analytical results.

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- e. Samples must be packed in insulated containers.
- f. Collectors should place a solid polyethylene bag liner in the insulated container.
- m. Each sample (liver, adipose tissue and muscle) shall be double-bagged and securely closed. For example, one sample or six chicken livers would be placed and sealed in a plastic bag which is then placed and sealed in a second plastic bag.
- n. Inspectors should place the bagged samples in the bag liner and seal the liner in a manner that any attempt to tamper with the contents would be noticed easily.
- o. Samples must be packed utilizing a method (i.e., gel packs, dry ice) that will ensure that samples arrive in the laboratory in frozen condition since product may be subjected to extremes of heat and/or cold while in transit to the laboratory.
- p. Place the completed USF in a separate plastic bag and place in the insulated cooler with the corresponding samples.
- q. Shipping containers should be sealed in a manner that any attempt to tamper with the contents would be noticed easily (i.e., custody tape).
- r. Once the sample has been sealed in the official container, it may not be transferred to a different container at a later time.
- s. Place the sealed insulated container in the plant's freezer overnight to ensure that the product will be shipped in frozen condition.

## **6.5 Shipping of Poultry Products**

- a. If a sample was stored in the plant's freezer at any time prior to shipping, FSIS must carefully inspect the container for damage. If the container has been damaged, FSIS should contact Dr. Martha E. Styles, Technical Service Center, Omaha, Nebraska, to report the incident. FSIS may be required to resample.

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- b. Ship via FedEx PDP poultry samples directly to the USDA, AMS laboratory in Gastonia, North Carolina (Attachment A). The return address should be clearly indicated on the outside of the shipping container.
- c. All samples must be shipped in frozen condition.
- d. PDP recommends that the outside of the shipping container be labeled with one the following phrase: "PDP Sample -- "Request Urgent Delivery--Place in Freezer Upon Arrival." This may help alert the shipping company and the laboratory to the type of contents and, hopefully, reduce abuse and mishandling.
- e. If dry ice is used, place a “dry ice” label on the outside of the shipping container.
- f. Ship the samples so that they arrive in the laboratory on a weekday.
- g. Do not ship on Friday or the day before a Federal holiday.

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Date

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Date

Approved by: Robert Epstein  
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Date

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## Attachment A

### Contact List—Poultry Testing Program USDA's Pesticide Data Program

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Agricultural Marketing Service  
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Virginia 20110  
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Dr. Martha E. Styles  
FSIS Sampling Manager for PDP  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Food Safety and Inspection Service  
Technical Service Center  
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Landmark Center  
Omaha, NE 68102  
402-221-7401; ext. 7453  
402-221-7497--FAX

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**USDA, AMS Laboratory Contacts** Manassas,  
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USDA, AMS, S&T Laboratory  
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**SAMPLES ONLY:**  
Ed Jankowski  
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## Attachment B

### Sample Collection Dates

Month	Day of Sample Collection
<b>April</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>May</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup>
<b>June</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>July</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup>
<b>August</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>September</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup>
<b>October</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup>
<b>November</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 27 <sup>h</sup>
<b>December</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>January</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup>
<b>February</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>March</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup>